



Borough of Gravesend.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

For the Year 1920.

13

THE

OF

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THE

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Alderman ENFIELD, J.P. (Chairman).

The Mayor (Councillor HARRINGTON).

Alderman DAVIS.	Councillor CATTON.
„ WALTER.	„ HINKLEY.
„ HUGGINS, J.P., C.C.	„ WYNN.
„ PREVOST.	„ PRIESTLEY.
„ AXCELL, J.P.	„ FLETCHER.
Councillor FULLJAMES.	„ SHADE.
„ BERREY.	„ RAMSAY.

STAFF.

Clerks :

S. V. TONGE.

P. A. BROOKS.

Health Visitor :

Mrs. F. BALLARD, C.M.B.

Assistant Sanitary Inspectors :

J. E. BAKER.

A. H. BAKER.

Sanitary Inspector & Inspector under Food & Drugs Acts, etc.

J. G. PLANT, A.R.S.I.

Medical Officer of Health & School Medical Officer :

C. D. OUTRED, D.P.H., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., L.D.S.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Vital Statistics for the Year 1920.

Population.—Census 1901, 27,196. Census 1911, 28,115.	
Population of the Borough, estimated to the middle of year 1920, 30,970.	
Area of the Borough in Acres (land and inland water), 1,260.	
Density of Population, persons per acre, 22.3.	
Average number of persons per inhabited house, 4.5.	
Marriages—Number 288. Marriage rate per 1,000 living ...	9.2
Births (Nett)—Number 822. Birth Rate per 1,000 living ...	26.1
Deaths (Nett)—Number 355 Death rate per 1,000 living ...	11.6
Infantile Death Rate (deaths under 1 year of age)—	
Number 53. Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Registered	
Births	64
Death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis per 1,000 living...	1.2
Death Rate from Respiratory Diseases (Excluding Tuberculosis)	2.3
Death Rate from Cancer per 1,000 living	1.1
Zymotic Death Rate per 1,000 living	.36
The Zymotic Death Rate is the death rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases: Small Pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever (including Typhus, Enteric, Simple Continued Fever) and Diarrhœa.	

General Hospital.

The following figures taken from the Secretary's Report show the number of patients attending the Local Hospital during the year 1920, and that there is an increasing number will be seen when compared with the figures of 1919—

		1920.	1919.
In-patients	...	850	812
Consultations	...	2920	2754
Out-patients	..	1323	1235
Dental Patients	...	286	306
X-Ray	..	1168	1112
Massage	..	294	264
V.D.	..	148	132

Marriages.

The number of Marriages registered in the Gravesend District was as follows :—

Churches and Chapels	...	221
Registrar's Offices ...	...	67
		288

This gives a marriage rate of 9.2 per 1,000 of the population as against 336 or 10.5 for the year 1919.

Rateable and Assessable Value.

Gross Estimated Rental (Sept. 30th, 1920)	£	193,934	12	0
Rateable Value ..	...	151,591	3	0
Assessable Value	...	151,885	0	0
Yield of 1d. Rate	...	616	0	0
Rates (31st March, 1921) 14/8 in the £.				

Vaccination.

I am indebted to Mr. W. J. King, Clerk to the Guardians, for the following particulars as to Vaccination :—

The number of children vaccinated was	491
The number of certificates of exemption granted	329
The number of certificates of postponement	51

The proportion of conscientious objectors is very high and it is to be regretted that so many Parents have such an objection to vaccination particularly after the recent experiences in the Borough of its efficiency in protecting against Small Pox.

Births.

Eight hundred and twenty-two births (409 males, 413 females, were registered during the year 1920 giving a birth rate of 25.1 per 1,000 of the population. 723 births were notified under the Notification of Births Act, 1907. 87 births were not notified and the number of Still births reported was 35. The excess of births over deaths (actual increase of the population) was 467. The number notified by Medical Practitioners 208 and Midwives 515.

Illegitimate Births.

Thirty-one children were registered as illegitimate or 3.7 per cent. of the total births. During the War the rate averaged 4.7 and the pre-war standard 3.2.

Deaths.

Three hundred and sixty deaths were registered in the Borough during the year and the Registrar-General transferred 28 deaths of residents into the district and 33 non-residents were transferred to outside areas, thus giving the nett number of deaths as 355 (males 181, females 174) for the Borough with a death rate of 11.6 per 1,000 population. This is the lowest death rate for over 20 years. 57 persons died in the General Hospital and 28 in the Infirmary.

The causes of death were certified as follows :—

Cause of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Enteric Fever ...			
Small Pox ...			
Measles ...			
Scarlet Fever ...	1		1
Whooping Cough ...		4	4
Diphtheria ...	1	2	3
Influenza ...	5	6	11
Erysipelas ...		4	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	13	13	26
Tubercular Meningitis	1	3	4
Other Tubercular Diseases	3	4	7
Cancer ...	16	20	36
Rheumatic Fever ...	1		1
Meningitis ...	1	1	2
Organic Heart Disease	23	13	36
Bronchitis ...	15	20	35
Pneumonia (All forms)	13	6	19
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	3	4
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2	1	3
Appendicitis			
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	1		1
Alcoholism...			
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	2	9	11
Puerperal Fever ...			
Parturition ...		1	1
Congenital Debility ...	16	10	26
Violence, apart from Suicide	13	2	15
Suicide ...	3		3
Other Defined Diseases	50	51	101
Causes ill-defined or unknown		1	1

Special Causes, included in the above—

Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1
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Infantile Mortality.

Of the 355 deaths, 53 (30 males, 23 females) were children under 1 year of age, giving a rate of 64' per 1,000 births.

The chief causes of death were certified as follows :—

Premature Birth	...	...	13
Debility and Marasmus	...	...	11
Bronchitis	...	...	5
Congenital Malformations	...	...	3
Pneumonia	...	...	2
Diarrhœa	...	...	2

Twenty-seven children died under 1 month of age, and one case (premature birth) the death was uncertified.

		Birth Rate per 1,000 Population.	ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								Rate per 1,000 Births.		
			All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and En- teritis under 2 yrs.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
England and Wales		25.4	12.4	0.1	0.00	0.19	0.04	0.11	0.15	0.28	0.48	8.3	80
96 Great Towns, including London (Census Populations exceeding 50,000)		26.2	12.5	0.01	0.00	0.22	0.04	0.14	0.16	0.31	0.43	10.4	85
148 Smaller Towns (Census Popula- tions 20,000-50,000)		24.9	11.3	0.02	0.00	0.19	0.03	0.10	0.14	0.27	0.38	7.8	80
London		26.5	12.4	0.01	0.00	0.22	0.05	0.17	0.22	0.30	0.47	9.5	75
GRAVESEND		26.1	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.12	0.09	0.35	0.47	3.6	64

Child Welfare.

The Corporation have appointed a Special Committee of the Council as an acting Committee on all matters relating to the Housing and Maternity and Child Welfare. All are members of the Council, with the exception of four ladies who were appointed by the Council and are members of the Local Voluntary Ladies Committee who assist at the Child Welfare Centre. As stated in a previous report the Centre is situated at Manor Road and is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 2-30 to 4 p.m. with the exception of Bank Holidays. That the Centre is much appreciated by the poorer mothers of the Borough is shown by the increasing numbers who attend each year. The conditions discovered prove how very necessary it is that the mothers and their children should come under medical supervision. It was found necessary to grant medical necessities in many instances owing to insufficient means. I would like to point out here that when a person is not necessitous only medical advice is given, the patient being referred to their own Practitioner for special treatment, but there are always a number of Minor ailments of children where medical advice is required which, unless a free Clinic Centre is available, are frequently neglected owing to the expense of seeking medical advice, or to the ignorance of the parents leading to permanent trouble later on in life.

I desire to express my thanks to the Ladies' Voluntary Committee for their great assistance rendered at the Centre frequently I am aware, at great inconvenience to themselves. Their kindness in providing tea, and baby clothes at cost price, and assisting in obtaining recommendations to the Hospital in necessitous cases has been much appreciated by the Mothers. Furthermore, as the Committee have arranged a rota of Ladies to attend each day at the Centre, this has relieved the Health Visitor of attending except on the day the Medical Officer is present thus giving more time for the Health Visitor to visit the homes.

The method adopted at the Welfare Centre is as follows :—

On Mondays, children are examined and weighed and individual health talks are given. Baby clothes are supplied at cost price. Artificial foods, Cod Liver Oil, Malt, etc., are supplied at cost price.

Tuesdays and Fridays, Foods, Cod Liver Oil, etc., are supplied at cost price.

On Thursdays the Medical Officer and Health Visitor attend mothers and children referred by the latter, or by members of the Ladies' Committee, examined, and recommendations made and the necessary advice given. Artificial Foods are also supplied free to necessitous cases or at cost price and treatment for minor ailments undertaken. No children are allowed to be supplied with artificial milk without a certificate is received from the Medical Officer.

The number of visits of infants to the Centre during 1920 was 3,456 Number of Expectant Mothers notified and attended at the Centre 323.

The following is the number of necessitous persons and the amount of free grants made in those cases after investigations had been made as to their circumstances :—

No. of Persons.	Medical or other necessity granted.	Quantity.
18 ...	Lactagol ...	23 (4oz.) Pkts.
29 ...	Bynin ...	19½ Pints.
19 ...	Bynol ...	19½ „
8 ...	Cod Liver Oil ...	11 „
20 ...	Chymol ...	53 (8oz.) Pkts.
21 ...	Ovaltine ...	39 (6oz.) „
7 ...	Horlick's Malted Milk ...	60 (8oz.) „
14 ...	Virolax ...	22 (4oz.) „
154 ...	Fresh Milk ...	1,735 Gals.
15 ...	Glaxo ...	397lbs.
3 ...	Cow and Gate ...	20lbs.

The following amounts of artificial foods, medical necessities, etc., were supplied at cost price at the Centre :—

Glaxo ...	7,824lbs.	Bynin ...	23lbs.
Cow & Gate ...	912 „	Bynol ...	17 „
Patent Groats ...	281 „	Cod Liver Oil ...	14 „
Lactagol ...	337 Pkts.	Ovaltine ...	8 „
Sugar ...	80lbs.		

The Health Visitor (Mrs. Ballard) reports as follows :—

Number of visits to Infants (Notification of Births)			Act)	715
„	„	under 1 year	...	2,145
„	„	1 year to 5 years	...	3,721
„	„	Expectant Mothers	...	658
Total—				<u>7,339</u>

Number of attendances to the Centre for			
Medical Advice (Thursdays)	...		1,056,
Splints, Umbilical Strapping, etc., supplied to			59 persons.
Elastic Bandages (for Varicose Veins) and			
other Surgical appliances	...	7	„
Minor Ailments treated	...	37	„
Referred to General Hospital or to Private			
Practitioners by Medical Officer	...	144	„

Forty persons were referred by Midwives to the Medical Officer. In urgent cases the Medical Officer issues provisional orders for the supply of milk to children under 5 and nursing and expectant mothers. These cases are considered by the Committee at the next meeting together with the less urgent applications. All cases are re-considered again by the Committee at the expiration of the time for which the milk was granted. This period is never more than 3 months and in the majority of cases 4 to 6 weeks.

For the year 1921 no grants are made beyond the period of 1 month and thus every case when a grant of free half-price milk is being received is re-considered at least at end of every month.

Infectious Diseases.

The following notifications were received during 1920 :—

Disease.	No. of cases Notified.	No. of cases removed to Isolation Hospital.
Small-Pox ...	2	2
Diphtheria ...	63	39
Erysipelas ...	14	—
Scarlet Fever ...	29	17
Enteric Fever ...	6	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	21	—
Other Forms „	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—

The ages at which the diseases occurred will be seen tabulated at the end of the Report.

Small-Pox.

Two persons were notified. The first, a female, age 30, living in Albion Terrace, notified on 11th March, and the second was reported on the 17th April, in a male, age 17, from the Avenue. Only in the latter case could contact be traced with a person suffering with this disease and this occurred in a District adjoining the Borough.

Both persons were removed to the Isolation Hospital and made a good recovery. The usual measures of isolation and disinfection were carried out and no further notifications occurred during the year. No distinct vaccination marks were discovered in either case.

Diphtheria.

Sixty-three persons (26 males, 37 females) were reported as suffering with Diphtheria. Three deaths (1 male, 2 females) were registered. 39 persons suffering with this disease were removed to the Isolation Hospital. Only 1 person was over 26 years of age, and the large majority of the cases were between 5 and 15 years of age. 23 children were discovered at the School Clinics suffering with this disease. It is much to be regretted that some Medical Practitioners do not make more use of swabbing of throats and nasal passages, especially since the swabs are examined free at the County Laboratories.

A number of the cases notified had not received Antitoxin when admitted into the Isolation Hospital. Antitoxin is now supplied free at the Town Hall and should always be used even when Diphtheria is only suspected.

The great reduction in mortality since its introduction proves beyond doubt its value in the treatment of Diphtheria, particularly is this seen when injected at an early stage of the illness. 3 children were found to be suffering with Nasal Diphtheria without any history of illness or sore throat symptoms. It is advisable for all children suffering with chronic Nasal discharge to be examined for Diphtheria as the disease is frequently spread in this way. Provision is now made at the Gravesend Isolation Hospital for the reception and treatment of patients suffering from this disease.

Erysipelas.

Fourteen persons (5 males, 9 females) were notified as suffering with this disease and 4 deaths were registered.

The age groups affected were as follows :—

Under 1 year.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
1	2	9	2

Scarlet Fever.

Twenty-nine persons were notified (11 males, 18 females) and 1 death registered. 17 persons were removed to the Isolation Hospital. The age groups affected were as follows :—

Under 1 year.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.
10	16	1	2

This is the lowest number of notifications received of Scarlet Fever during 1 year for over 10 years. The cases were distributed over all parts of the Borough. The majority were of a very mild nature and all recovered with the exception of one case, a male child, age 4 years, who died in the Isolation Hospital.

Enteric Fever.

Six cases were reported, all males. 5 were removed to the Isolation Hospital. 1 person who suffered from this disease was a contact with a child suffering with Enteric outside the District. The cases were reported from different parts of the Borough and no 2 notifications were received in one month.

Persons suffering from Enteric Fever are still isolated at the Strood Isolation Hospital as there is no provision at the Gravesend Sanatorium at present.

Anthrax.

One person, a male, age 34, suffering with Anthrax was notified from the Gravesend Hospital. He was a non-resident and had contracted the disease outside the District.

Tuberculosis.

Primary notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis numbered 21 (12 males, 9 females) and only 2 notifications were received of disease in other forms. The age periods were as follows :—

Under 1 year.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	Over 65.
1	2	5	10	4	1

Six primary notifications were received from Medical Officers of Sanatoria. 7 deaths were registered from Tuberculosis of which no notifications were received. In 6 certificates the cause of death

was given as Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and in one case Tuberculosis of the Peritoneum. Of the primary notifications 4 died during the year. 15 persons were under General Practitioners or Dispensary treatment. 8 persons received treatment at Sanatoria.

As stated in a previous report isolation is urgently needed for the more advanced cases of Tuberculosis owing to their very infectious nature, this particularly applies to persons suffering with this disease residing in the crowded areas of the Borough, and for which it is hopeless to expect that proper accommodation can be provided for them at the home. Such provision could certainly be made at the Sanatorium, Gravesend, and I would strongly urge the Council to carefully consider this recommendation.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Two children were notified with this disease and were treated by General Practitioners.

Cancer.

Thirty-six deaths (16 males, 20 females) or 10% of the total deaths in the Borough were certified as dying from Cancer. With the exception of 4 persons the age period was over 45 years of age. The situation of the disease and sex was as follows :—

Organs,	Males.	Females.
Breast		5
Female Generative Organs		4
Liver ...	3	
Rectum ...	1	1
Stomach ...	1	3
Other Digestive Organs	4	3
Orbit ...	2	1
Extremities ...		2
Tongue ...	1	
Bladder ...	1	1
Larynx ...	1	
Chest ...	1	
Male Generative Organs	1	
	—	—
Total—	16	20
	==	==

Bacteriological.

Specimens sent for examination during 1920 :—

Suspected of	Number Sent	Result Positive	Result Negative
Diphtheria ...	224	53	171
Tuberculosis ...	83	15	68
Ringworm ...	19	8	11
Enteric Fever ...	3	2	1
Malaria ...	1		1
Total	330	78	252

Refuse and Sewage.

On the 1st of January, 1920, a new Contractor (Mr. Davidson) took over the contract for the emptying and removal of sewage from cesspools and pails in the Borough and also the removal of refuse. The Contractor has employed motor traction in undertaking this work. An important clause in the contract is that refuse must be deposited in a place at least 3 miles from the Borough.

There has been considerable trouble from overflowing cesspools during the year and the Sanitary Inspector reports that this is due to (1) the number of new cesspool pits dug during the last five years was very small as compared with previous years, consequently the old cesspools which are still in use were causing the increased number of full cesspools; (2) The increased population; (3) In the lower part of the town (where cesspools are able to be dug) the high water level has caused the sewage to fill up the cesspools more rapidly.

The number of cesspools emptied during 1920 is 3,468. There has been many instances of the same cesspool overflowing within a short period, after being emptied, even in the higher parts of the Borough, and on enquiring it has been found that no attempt has been made to treat the sides or the bottom of a cesspool after removal of the sewage. If this is done the life of a cesspool is infinitely longer and undoubtedly such a method should go a long way to relieve the present difficulty of the increasing number of cesspools overflowing after a short time of being emptied. It must be admitted that such a system as cesspool drainage in crowded areas such as we have in Gravesend is at times frequently a nuisance. Main drainage is the only satisfactory solution to the nuisance of overflowing cesspools. Now, with the Country returning to a more normal condition, after the late war, it would be wise to again consider the question of main drainage, especially is this advisable since the expenses in cartage and hauling of the sewage has so greatly increased during the last year as compared with the cost in previous years, and as there appears no possibility of this amount being lower but on the contrary higher it should receive very careful consideration of the Council not only as a more economical but a more sanitary scheme.

Housing.

Overcrowding is still very prevalent in the Borough and for this reason where houses are in an unfit state action under the Housing and Town Planning Act has been very difficult to enforce. The scheme of housing on the King's Farm Estate undertaken by the Council is progressing but is now somewhat delayed by the proposed site of the sewage farm which as stated in previous reports is the system of drainage required by the Ministry of Health in this area. Apart from these houses, plans have been submitted and received sanction for 65 houses during 1920. The increased price of material and cost of labour has prevented builders from erecting dwelling houses for which there is great demand as shown by the high prices paid for many of the old houses, at the various property sales in the Town, if as appears now possible, prices should fall, it will undoubtedly give a great encouragement to house building and relieve the present overcrowding in the Borough.

Inquests.

Twenty-nine Inquests were held by the Borough Coroner during 1920 and the causes of death were certified as follows:—

Natural Causes	5	Murder	1.
Accidental	17	Other Causes	4.
Found Drowned	2		

Food and Drugs Acts, 1875-1907.

The County Analyst reports as follows:—

One hundred and one samples of food and drugs received, analysed and reported upon during the year 1920, of which number 11 samples were more or less adulterated: an annual rate of adulteration is thus produced of 10.89% made up of 7 tests Mustard, 2 Milks and 2 Drugs (1 of them a test).

Of Milk, 13 were submitted, of which 2=15.4% were very slightly deficient in fat, just below the limit for that constituent.

Seven Mustards out of 9 test cases (77.7%) contained wheat flour in rather large proportion ranging from 21.9 up to 40%. Tins of Mustard are usually protected by a label declaring the contents to be a mixture, so that it is not easy to make a successful purchase or to bring an offence home.

Ung. Hydrarg Ammoniate (Ammoniated Mercury Ointment). There were 2 tests under this heading spoken of adversely. First of all 3 test samples were brought, Nos. 25, 26, 28. They showed a result 10%, 5% and 10% of white precipitate thus seeming to indicate that there is a commercial standard of 10% and that the middle test sample No 26 was of less strength than it should have been. It now appears, however, that although apparently weak, it is yet of the quality specified in the latest Pharmacopœa of 1914, in which the standard for this drug has been altered to the lower strength of 5% instead of 10% as it always had been hitherto.

A formal sample of Ammoniated Mercury Ointment purchased at the shop No. 26 came from, showed a low result likewise, practically 5% or half-strength, but yet in accord with the new Pharmacopœa.

It is not to be forgotten that this new Pharmacopœa happened to be published at an awkward moment, for the date coincided with the commencement of the War when the thoughts and energies of the whole community were directed to weightier matters; thus it came to pass that the new Pharmacopœa almost escaped notice in the press and no public attention seems to have been devoted to the new points contained in it which would have otherwise been done. The Ammoniated Mercury Ointment is not the only drug which has suffered an alteration in standard of strength, but there is no public record of such change, which makes it more difficult than it otherwise would have been to trace these changes.

The evidence furnished by the result of analysis of the No. 3 sample at first bought, shews that there must be some commercial standard which these 2 samples No. 26 and 29 failed to reach.

The three tests came to Full strength, Half-strength and Full strength. What is to be said of the 2 high ones which have occurred if the weaker standard of the Pharmacopœa is to hold full sway ?

Such facts certainly seem to point out the evidence of commercial qualities of the Drug, otherwise it is no easy matter to see the reason for making it twice the strength it need have been, and the corresponding item of expense also enters into the question.

There being the element of uncertainty the case of No. 29 although duly certified was not finally proceeded with. But on the evidence gained by the analysis of the three test samples, together with the formal one, it can hardly be looked at otherwise than by considering adulteration present, especially when viewed in the light of a commercial standard.

It has been considered better to adhere to the original deductions and class the two weak ointments as adulterated, for they evidently failed to conform to what seemed to be the standard quality of the ointment.

The Synopsis appended will furnish other information needed.

A further one deals with various samples received from the Food Control Committee during the early part of 1920.

Twelve Beers submitted to ascertain the original Gravity and thus see how they correspond in price with that legalised under the Beer (Prices and Descriptions) Order 1920, shews good results. 11 had been bought at 5d. per pint ale, these had an Or. Gr. 1027.79 to 1030.66, and were entirely satisfactory.

The 7d. a pint ale had an Or. Gr. of 1043.21, so that without exception they were genuine and good samples.



Synopsis for the year 1920.

Article.	District and Number.	Result of Analysis.
Margarine 4	Borough of	Genuine
Cheese 7	Gravesend.	"
Cocoa 4		"
Arrowroot 3		"
Coffee 5		"
Tea 4		"
Pepper 3		"
Mustard 9		2 Genuine
	No. 134	40% Wheat Flour
	137	40% " "
	149	35% " "
	165	32% " "
	166	21.9% " "
	168	24.4% " "
	171	23 3% " "
Baking Power 5		Genuine
Egg Powder 5		"
Tapioca 1		"
Flour 4		"
Bread 6		"
Treacle 3		"
Jam 3		"
Milk 13		11 Genuine
	184	Very slightly deficient in fat
	186	" " " "
Lard 3		Genuine
Medicine as Prescription 3		"
Drugs as Prescription 4		" 3 Tests
	26	Half the strength demanded
	29	" " " "
Beer 12		Genuine
Total 101		

**The Sanitary Inspector Reports, visits made during the
year 1920, as follows :—**

	No. in District	No. of Visits	No. of defects found	No. of defects remedied
Bakehouses	31	31	9	9
Dairies	10	42	10	10
Cow sheds	2			
Milk Shops	20			
Slaughterhouses	10	356	—	—
Common Lodging houses	7	7	2	2
Factories	17	138	23	23
Workshops	80			
Workplaces	6			

**Nuisances found during the year (other than those
enumerated in the above tabulation.)**

<i>Re</i> Overcrowding.	No. investigated	5	No. Abated	5
Offensive Trades	„	4	„	4
Keeping of Animals	„	2	„	2
Sanitary Accommodation	„	207	„	168
			including conversions of types	
Drainage	„	89	No. Abated	86
Dustbins, etc.	„	609	„	423
Others	„	621	„	506

Number of each type of Sanitary convenience in use in the District

W.C's. into drainage system	... 150	(Approximate)
„ „ cesspools	... 5000	„
Pail closets	... 50	

Notices served Statutory	... 106	Informal ... 651
No. of houses, etc., disinfected	... 163	Rooms
No. of articles of clothing disinfected	...	2,956
Amount of food condemned during the year,	4 tons 19 cwt. 14 lbs.	

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

(Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.)

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prose- cutions (4)
FACTORIES ... (Including Factory Laundries)	32	1	
WORKSHOPS ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	95	15	
WORKPLACES ... (Other than Outworkers' pre- mises including in part 3 of this Report.)	18	6	
Total ...	145	22	

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. 1	Number of Defects.			Number of Prose- cutions 5
	Found. 2	Remedied 3	Referred to H.M. Inspector 4	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness ...	8	8		
Want of ventilation ...				
Overcrowding ...				
Want of drainage of floors ...				
Other Nuisances... ..	7	7		
Sanitary accommodation				
{ insufficient ...	1	1		
{ unsuitable or defective	10	10		
{ not separate for sexes...				
<i>Offices under the Factory and Workshops' Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of under- ground bakehouse ...				
Breach of special Sanitary requirements for bakehouses				
Other offences				
(Excluding offences relating to outwork which are includ- ed in part 3 of this Report...				
Total... ..	26	26		

3.—Home Work.

NATURE OF WORK.	Outworkers' Lists, Section 107.			Outwork in Unwhole- some Premises, Sec. 108		
	Lists received from Employers.			In- stances	Notice served	Prose- cutions
	Sending twice in the year.					
		Outworkers.				
	Lists	Con- tractors	Work- men			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing Apparel— making, &c. ..	56	164	178	6	6	
Furniture & Upholstery	2	4	4			
Total ..	58	168	182	6	6	

4.—Registered Workshops.

Total Number of Workshops on Register	...	98
---------------------------------------	-----	----

5.—Other Matters.

Class (1)	Number (2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901)	...
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 5, 1901). ...	Notified by H.M. Inspector ... Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector .
Other	...
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year ●	8

CAUSES OF DEATH		Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District								
		All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
All Cases {	Certified	354	52	11	10	10	14	42	91	124
	Uncertified	1	1							
Enteric Fever										
Small Pox										
Measles ...										
Scarlet Fever		1			1					
Whooping Cough		4	1	2	1					
Diphtheria and Croup		3			1					
Influenza		11			1		2	2	4	1
Erysipelas		4	1				1	1	1	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever										
Meningitis		2	1							
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)		26				3	3	11	6	3
Tuberculous Meningitis		4		3		1				
Other Tuberculous Diseases		7	1	2	1	1		1		1
Rheumatic Fever ...		1								
Cancer, malignant disease		36				1		3	14	18
Bronchitis		35	5						8	22
Broncho-Pneumonia ...										
Pneumonia (all other forms)		19	2	2	1		2	5	5	2
Other diseases of Respiratory organs		4								

Table 1. Vital Statistics of whole District during 1920 and previous Years.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	Births			Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Net Deaths belonging to the District			
		Uncorrected Number	Net		Number	Rate	of Non-residents registered in the District	of Residents not registered in the District	Under 1 Year of Age		At all ages	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Net Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1910	28024	592	592	22.1	376	13.5	27	—	48	28.8	352	12.5
1911	28140	598	598	21.2	446	15.8	44	28	47	78	430	15.2
1912	28230	611	617	21.8	370	13.1	36	20	44	72	360	12.7
1913	28320	685	687	24.2	417	14.5	37	29	62	90	409	14.4
1914	28412	669	672	23.6	405	14.2	40	20	54	80	385	13.5
1915	28504	609	614	21.5	454	13.9	64	40	55	89	430	15.08
1916	28596	695	701	23.5	481	17.6	66	32	57	80.2	447	16.3
1917	28668	525	531	18.4	422	15.7	49	25	36	65.9	398	14.8
1918	29492	502	508	16.2	462	16.6	61	37	41	80	438	15.7
1919	29898	567	590	19.3	451	15.3	72	33	43	72	412	14.06
1920	30970	810	822	26.1	360	11.8	33	28	53	64	355	11.6

Total Population at all ages, 28,115

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 1,260.

Total families or separate occupiers, 6,242

At Census, 1911.

Infant Mortality.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Year, 1920.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
All causes { Certified ...	13	7	6	1	27	7	11	3	4	52
{ Uncertified ...	1				1					1
Small Pox ...										
Chicken Pox...										
Measles ...										
Scarlet Fever ...										
Diphtheria and croup ...										
Whooping Cough ...								1		1
Diarrhoea ...							2			2
Enteritis ...										
Tuberculous Meningitis ...										
Abdominal Tuberculosis										
Other Tuberculous Diseases									1	1
Congenital Malformations	1		2		3					3
Premature Birth ...	9		2	1	12		1			13
Atrophy, Debility and										
Marasmus ...		2	1		3	3	3		1	10
Atelectasis ...	1				1					1
Injury at Birth ...		1			1					1
Erysipelas ...						1				1
Syphilis ...										
Rickets ...										
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)									1	1
Convulsions ...	1				1					1
Gastritis ...										
Laryngitis ...										
Bronchitis ...		1			1	2	1	1		5
Pneumonia (all forms)							2			2
Suffocation, overlaying										
Other causes ...	1	3	1		5	1	1	1	1	9
Dentition ...							1			1
Causes ill-defined or unknown	1				1					1
Totals ...	14	7	6	1	28	7	11	3	4	53

Nett Births in the year	{	legitimate 791	Nett Deaths in the year of	{	legitimate infants 48
		illegitimate 31			illegitimate infants 5

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED								TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years							
		Under 1	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	
Small-pox ...	2				1	1		2	
†Cholera (C) Plague (P) ...									
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) ...	63		11	41	10		1	39	
Erysipelas ...	14	1				2	9	2	
Scarlet fever ...	29		10	16	1	2		17	
Typhus fever ..									
Enteric fever...	6				3	3		5	
†Relapsing fever (R)									
‡Continued fever (C) ...									
Puerperal fever ...									
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis...									
Polio-myelitis ...									
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	21			2	5	9	4	1	
*Other Forms "	2	1				1			
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2							
Totals ...	139	4	21	59	20	18	14	63	

Gravesend Education Committee.

THE MAYOR (Councillor HARRINGTON, J.P.)

Chairman :

Alderman HUGGINS, J P., C.C.

Alderman ENFIELD, J.P.

„ . PREVOST.

„ AXCELL.

Councillor BERREY.

„ THOMAS.

Councillor HINKLEY.

„ PRIESTLEY.

„ FLETCHER.

„ THOMPSON.

„ SOLOMON.

REV. CANON GEDGE.

MR. T. W. J. BYRNE, J.P.

MISS BARLOW.

MR. A. H. WATKINS.

DR. FREEMAN.

MRS. BERREY.

*MRS. WILKS.

*MR. T. RHODES, J.P.

**County Council Representatives.*

Medical Department.

Clerk :

MR. S. TONGE.

School Nurse :

MRS. NUTTER.

School Dentist :

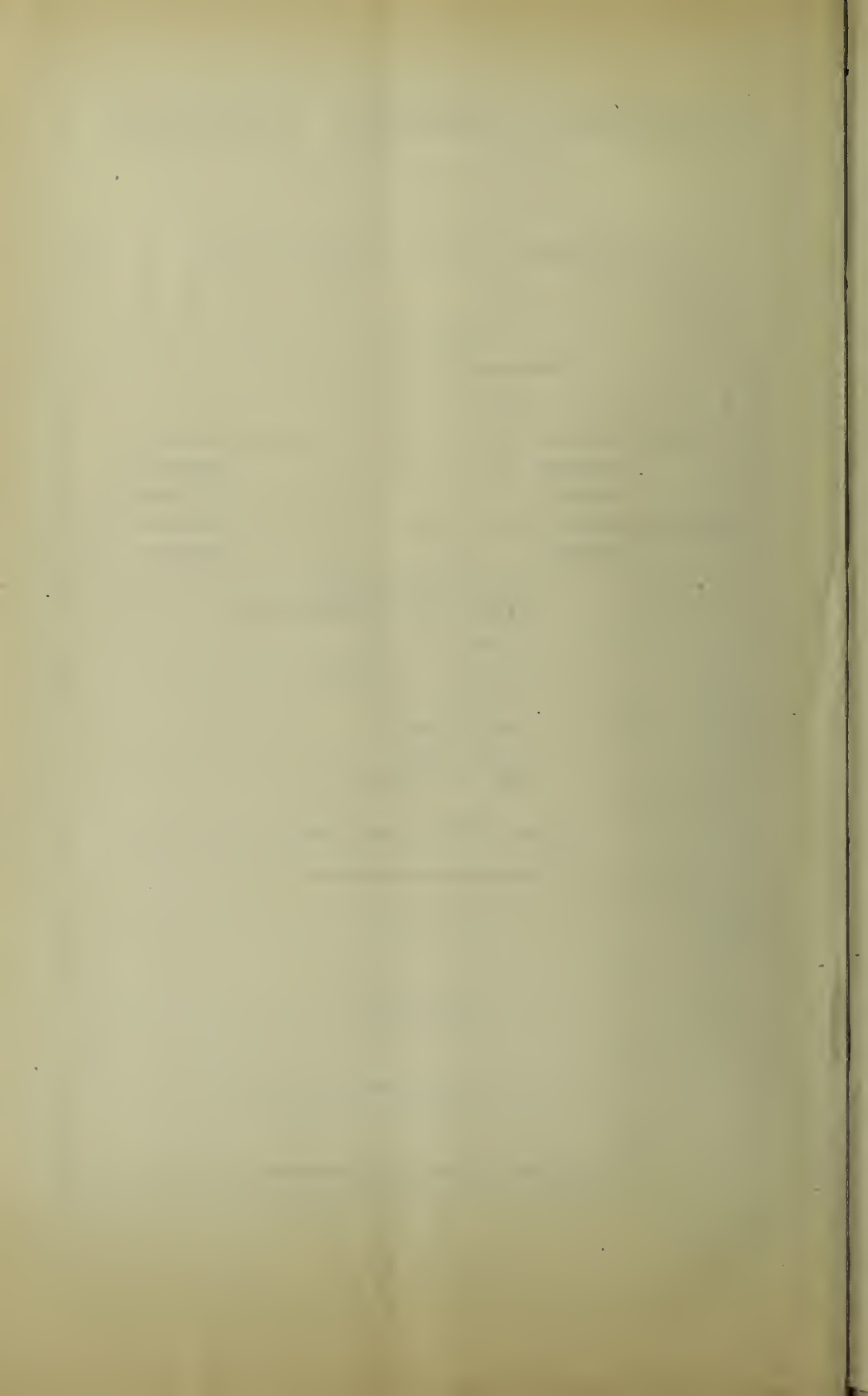
W. H. EDMONDS, L.D.S., ENG.

Ophthalmic Surgeon and Anæsthetist :

CHAS. FIRTH, M.D., LDN., F.R.C.S.

Medical Officer :

C. D. OUTRED, D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S., ENG.



ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SCHOOL MEDICAL : INSPECTION : IN : THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS OF THE BOROUGH.

I N the 1919 Report particulars as to the number of the Elementary Schools in the Borough, accommodation, duties of Attendance Officers, especially with regard to School Medical Department and the duties of School Nurse were given, and therefore I do not propose to repeat these details in this year's Report but to give you in brief a record of the defects discovered at the Routine and Special Inspections with the results obtained as to treatment, etc., on following up of the defectives at a latter date. At the end of the report will be found tables giving the various defects discovered at the Routine and Special examinations classified into groups and also giving the numbers treated of each. These figures are taken from the records of each child which are kept in the School Medical Department and tabulated together. With post war conditions returning to a more normal state it has been possible to overcome by persuasion the antipathy many of the parents had to allowing their children to receive treatment for defects and consequently the results obtained during 1920 have justified the optimism expressed in the last report. To obtain that measure of success, facilities have been arranged for parents to interview and consult me daily during the School terms.

Where parents at first have not attended with their children they have been visited and encouraged to make use of the Clinic and follow up the advice of the Medical Officer. Very few instances (except for operative treatment of enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids) have occurred where some attempt has not been made to obtain treatment since these methods have been in vogue. In previous years a large number of children would be away from School for quite a long period of time suffering with some minor complaint and receiving practically no treatment with the exception of an occasional visit to the Doctor or the Hospital to obtain a medical certificate.

By the co-operation of the Teachers, the Attendance Officers and the Inspector of Cruelty to Children, with the Officials of the School Medical Department the number has been reduced to a minimum as the free treatment at the Clinic gives no excuse for the parents to now neglect any complaint from which the children may be suffering.

ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION DURING 1921.

The age groups examined in all the Elementary Schools were as follows :—

		Boys.	Girls.
Entrants (ages 5-6 years)	...	297	256
Middle School Period (ages 8 years)		223	228
Leavers (ages 12-13 years)	...	251	244
		Total—1,499	

Of this number, 983 or 65 per cent were found to have one or more defects. Among the children defective 179 were placed under observation and 804 referred for treatment. 631 or 78 per cent of these children received treatment subsequently. Dental disease affected children to the number of 515. Affections of the Nose and Throat 254, Defective Vision 65, Skin diseases 28, Malnutrition 17, External Eye diseases 19, Non-tubercule Glands 30, Marked Anæmia 18, Organic Heart disease 24, Functional 4, Lung diseases (non-tubercular) 2, Definite Tuberculosis of Lungs 3, Suspected 4, Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 13, Defective Hearing 6, Ear disease 11, Diseases of Nervous System 5, Deformities 4, Defective Speech 1, and other defects and diseases 3.



No. of Parents present and condition as to Vaccination—

School.	Inspection Groups. Routine	Boys.			Girls.		
		No. of Children Examined.	No. of Children Vaccinated.	No. of Parents Present.	No. of Children Examined	No. of Children Vaccinated.	No. of Parents Present.
Church Street—	Entrants	... 47	21	27	47	20	22
	Intermediate				29	26	5
	Leavers	... 6	5	1	25	9	2
St. John's—	Entrants	... 28	6	7	15	7	3
	Intermediate	9	7	1	6		
	Leavers	... 10	8	2	27	15	6
Christ Church—	Entrants	... 28	14	13	10		4
	Intermediate	26	20	12	24	15	8
	Leavers	... 37	21	3	13	11	
Wrotham Rd.—	Entrants	... 37	25	19	52	26	20
	Intermediate	22	16	7	12	10	2
	Leavers	... 40	33		37	24	6
Cecil Road—	Entrants	.. 46	22	22	41	16	17
	Intermediate	52	30		48	29	
	Leavers	... 48	33		48	37	
Milton Council—	Entrants	... 37	12	11	26	14	4
	Intermediate	19	5	1	22	13	4
	Leavers	... 14	6		32	29	3
King Street—	Intermediate	30	15	2	33	14	15
	Leavers	... 29	17	2	21	19	4
St. James'—	Entrants	... 31	11	15	29	12	21
	Intermediate	29	17	13	28	10	14
	Leavers	... 26	19	5	15	12	9
Milton Church—	Entrants	... 12	5		7	6	
	Intermediate	10	2		8	6	
	Leavers	... 14	4		12	7	
Holy Trinity—	Entrants	... 31	16	18	29	13	29
	Intermediate	26	18	13	18	10	14
	Leavers	... 29	16	2	14	13	2
		771	424	196	728	532	214

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT.

The following gives the average height and weight at the different Routine age groups.

The Anthropological Standard of the British Association for the advancement of science is given for comparison.

HEIGHT.

Gravesend Children.				Anthropological Standard		
Age last birthday	Sex	No. examined	Average height in inches	General Population		Artisan Towns
				all Classes Towns, Country	Labouring Classes Towns, Country	
5	Boys	206	41.1	41.3	42.55	39.72
	Girls	192	40.3	40.5	41.87	39.77
8	Boys	223	48.6	47.05	47.09	46.46
	Girls	228	46.46	46.60	47.10	48.55
12	Boys	214	54.3	54.9	53.67	53.72
	Girls	204	55.2	55.6	55.59	53.98

WEIGHT.

Gravesend Children.				Anthropological Standard.		
Age last birthday	Sex	No. examined	Average weight in lbs.	General Population		Artisan Towns
				all Classes Towns & Country	Labouring Classes Towns & Country	
5	Boys	206	38.9	39.9	38.9	40.9
	Girls	192	39.2	39.2	38.4	40.3
8	Boys	223	56.5	54.9	54.8	54.3
	Girls	228	53.6	52.1	51.9	51.8
12	Boys	214	76.3	76.7	75.9	73.0
	Girls	204	77.2	76.4	75.7	74.9

It will thus be seen Gravesend children compare very favourably with the children of other parts of this Country.

CLOTHING AND FOOTGEAR.

During 1920, probably due to more regular inspections at the Schools, the general condition of the clothing and footgear showed very great improvement. As in previous years the majority of those found defective were boys, and in the case of girls it was more a question of untidiness and dirty underclothing, rather than deficiency.

DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

One hundred and nineteen children were referred for operative treatment for these defects, 96 from the Routine Groups, 23 from Specials. In addition 128 from the Routine and 10 Specials were placed under observation. In these latter cases the defects were only slightly marked and a course of special breathing exercises were recommended, with, in some instances, local applications. Where operative treatment is undertaken, in the more marked cases, the parents are always instructed to follow-up with a course of breathing exercises afterwards to ensure full benefit of the treatment. 53 children were treated at the School Clinic, 13 by Private Practitioners or at the Hospital, and 12 received other forms of treatment. There is still among many parents opposition to operative treatment for the cure of enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids, but it is hoped that during the year 1921, the parents may be persuaded to submit to an operation later of several of the severe cases found defective in the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Six (4 boys, 2 girls) definite cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were discovered during the Routine and Special Inspections and were excluded and referred for special treatment at the Dispensary, or under their own Doctor. 4 children were placed under observation, with definite instructions for re-examinations from time to time. 9 children suffered with Tubercular Glands, 2 with diseased bones, 2 with hip joint disease and 1 skin disease respectively, and were recommended for treatment accordingly.

UNCLEANLINESS.

The Nurse reports that she has made 240 visits to the Schools for Special Inspections as to uncleanliness and examined a total of 13,618 children. 133 children were excluded for Vermin, 234 children required special attention and notices sent to parents. Unfortunately several children after receiving attention were discovered later in a similar condition and there are several instances where the children had been excluded and mothers had not returned them to school again as soon as possible.

There were 23 summonses granted by the Magistrates against parents for non-attendance of their children at school during 1920, 14 were convicted and fined, 4 adjourned and eventually dropped as the children had made full attendance in the meantime. 2 children were sent to Industrial Schools and 3 attendance orders made by the Magistrates and complied with. Children excluded for Vermin are sent home with a printed card giving detailed instruction as to the best methods to adopt for cure.

HEART AND CIRCULATION.

The number of cases of Heart Disease discovered at the last inspection were more numerous than at any inspection previous to 1920. In all cases, with the exception of 1, compensation was satisfactory. Special instructions were given to parents and also to Teachers in these cases. 16 cases were discovered at the Routine Inspections and 5 Specials were referred for Medical Treatment. In 3 cases a history of Rheumatic Fever was obtained and in 4 cases a severe attack of Influenza during the epidemic of two years ago was ascertained. Marked Anæmia affected 18 children among the Routine Groups and 20 Specials. In 11 instances the Heart sounds were not normal and showed signs of trouble. 27 children were referred for special treatment.

DEFECTIVE VISION.

Sixty-one children (Routine 42, Specials 19) including 9 suffering from Squint were referred for treatment and 20 children were placed under observation, the defect not calling for special treatment. 43 received treatment at the Clinic, 9 elsewhere, and in 3 cases the Ophthalmic Surgeon did not consider special treatment would be beneficial.

The following cases were treated at the School Clinic :—

	Boys.	Girls.
Compound Astigmatism	1	—
Myopia ...	3	5
Myopia Astigmatism ...	3	—
Hypermetropia ...	2	3
Strabismus Hypermetropia	10	10
Astigmatism ...	2	3
Strabismus ...	—	1

DENTAL.

The Dental Surgeon has devoted 29 half-days to inspection at the Schools when the teeth of the children at the ages 5, 6, 7 and 8 years were examined, making the total 1,763, with the addition of 316 Specials attending at the Clinic. Of this number 1,182 were discovered defective and 723 received treatment. Re-inspections were made of the children who had already passed through the Dental Inspection of previous years and 334 were referred for treatment, 316 receiving treatment. Permission of the parents for the treatment of teeth at the earlier ages, namely, 5 to 8 years of age, particularly 5 and 6 groups is not so easily obtained as many parents have an idea that no permanent teeth are present until the later years of age and they do not consider that temporary teeth should need any attention. Consequently a number referred for treatment at these ages do not present themselves for treatment. When defects are discovered a card, of which a copy is shown overleaf, is sent to the home of the child for the parents to sign, giving permission for treatment, this is then returned to the School Teacher, who afterwards forwards it to the School Medical Officer, and an early appointment is made. The child attends first at the School to obtain the attendance mark and is then referred to the Dental Clinic.

SPECIMEN.

RESULTS OF BAD TEETH.

Bad complexion and skin diseases, offensive breath, poorness of blood (anemia), large glands, indigestion, rheumatic pains, consumption, and general bad health.

Teeth that *can be saved* ought to be "stopped."

Teeth and "roots" that are too bad to stop ought to be extracted, as they poison the body; **ESPECIALLY** when they don't ache.

I desire to have my child's teeth attended to at the _____ Centre.

Please sign your full name here.

Name _____

Address _____

SPACE FOR REMARKS.

Please see that your child's teeth are thoroughly cleaned before taking him to the Centre. You can do this with camphorated chalk or ordinary clean whitening.

SPECIMEN.

M. T. 243.

Gravesend Education Committee.

School Medical Department.

Care of Teeth--"Request for Treatment" Card.

To the Parent or Guardian of _____ School

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

The School Dentist has examined your child's teeth, and finds that they are in need of treatment for the sake of his/her future good health.

If you cannot have this done privately, you are strongly advised to take him to the School Dentist at the _____ Centre

If you agree, please sign your full name on the other side of this card and send it to the Head Teacher, and an appointment card will then be sent to you.

Sixty-three half-days were devoted to treatment and 1,287 attendances were made by the children. The more detailed work at the Dental Clinic is seen tabulated at the end of the Report.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE SCHOOLS.

Owing to the great desire for economy the Committee have postponed the general repainting, etc., of the interior of the Schools, consequently several Schools, particularly King Street, Church Street, and Milton are in a very unsatisfactory condition with the walls and ceilings dirty and paint work defective.

The winter having been mild and the coal supply better, not so much trouble was experienced with the heating of the Schools as in the previous year.

The Offices which are under the supervision of the Sanitary Department who undertake the cleansing, etc., are kept in a good sanitary condition.

NUTRITION.

Seventeen children (14 boys, 3 girls) were referred for special treatment as suffering with marked Malnutrition. 3 cases occurred in paper boys and undoubtedly the strain of long hours helped to produce this condition, the boys were very anæmic and had very little time for taking their meals. I am strongly of the opinion children attending School should not be allowed to be employed as paper boys, messengers, etc., on school days otherwise their physical condition suffers. Furthermore the teachers report that children so employed arrive at School late, tired, and quite incapable of benefiting from the educational instruction.

MINOR DEFECTS.

A large number of minor defects were recorded but principally among the Specials who were brought by the parents up to the School Clinic for examination, or referred by the Teachers, Attendance Officers or School Nurse. These were classified as follows :—

Ringworm :		Ear Diseases	...	39
Head ...	81	External Eye Disease	...	35
Body ...	14	Scabies	...	99
Impetigo...	248	Other Skin Diseases	...	23
Minor Injuries	64	Miscellaneous	...	75

Very few were treated privately the majority attending the Clinic for treatment. The attendances amounting to 3,552. As stated in previous reports the Clinic is now very much more favoured by the parents and many children are often referred to the Clinic with very trifling ailments such as slight Impetigo of face, scratches on hand, etc., in addition to the more severe troubles. The great advantage of the Clinic is that in previous years, children were often

absent from School for some length of time for some minor ailment, whereas now by constant supervision at the Clinic they are returned to School in a minimum of time. The School Nurse makes weekly visits to each School and when absentees are reported as due to illness visits are made to the homes unless a certificate is received from a private practitioner.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN.

The total number of Exceptional Children in the Borough is 85 (49 boys, 36 girls) and are classified as follows :—

Blind	1	Deformities ...	4
Mentally Deficient ...	12	Backward Children :	
Deaf (Totally) ...	1	Retarded 2 years	19
Epileptics	4	„ 3 „	20
Tuberculosis :			
Pulmonary ...	8		
Other Forms ...	16		

I would again strongly urge the Local Education Authority to establish a Special Centre in the Borough for Mentally deficient children.

Many applications have been made to Certified Schools in various parts of the country with a hope a vacancy might be found for at least some of these defective children. The reply in all cases has been in the negative and very often a long waiting list has been mentioned. 5 children are at present in Certified Special Schools.

SCHOOL CLINIC.

The Manor Road School premises have now been used as School Clinic for several years and every year an increasing number of children present themselves for Inspection or treatment frequently accompanied by their parents. The Medical Officer and School Nurse attend daily at the Clinic for treatment of those children referred to the Clinic by Attendance Officers, Teachers, Attendances Committee and also the Inspector for the Cruelty to Children. A number of school children used to attend at the General Hospital for some minor complaints, sometimes making a visit once a fortnight and frequently staying away from School for months.

These cases are now quite rightly referred by the Hospital Authorities to the Clinic and as a consequence with the daily supervision received there are soon back at school with a saving of the grant and education of the child. Apart from the medical inspection of Specials and the treatment of minor ailments at the Clinic Centre the operative treatment of nose and throat, defective teeth, the examination and prescribing of spectacles for defective eyesight is also undertaken at the Centre.

The value of the Clinic in protecting the health of the community can be seen when over 30 per cent. of the cases of Diphtheria notified in the Borough were discovered in children referred to the School Clinic.

One hundred and five Swabs were taken from children's throats during the year, these being suspicious cases or contacts with an infected person. Of this number 19 were returned as positive. 26 specimens of hairs suspected of Ringworm were sent for examination and 7 were returned positive. The number of children treated with minor defects was 625. The various defects are shown in detail in Table IV. at the end of the Report.

Twenty-nine children were granted free Cod Liver Oil, Virol, or Malt Extract after full enquiries as to their parents circumstances.

Children unfit for school are excluded by the School Medical Officer and a copy of this certificate giving the period of exclusion is sent to the school as well as to the Attendance Officer.

Four permanent exclusions were issued, 2 on account of Tuberculosis, 1 Heart disease and 1 Epilepsy (severe).

The following exclusions were issued from School Clinic after examination of the children :—

	Boys.	Girls.		Boys.	Girls.
Sore throat ...	64	90	Impetigo ...	54	72
Ringworm ...	32	15	Whooping		
Scabies ...	33	44	cough ...	12	7
Glandular ...	19	14	Other Infect-		
Otorrhœa ...	5	5	ious Diseases	12	13
Tuberculosis	4	2	Blepharitis	5	3
Debility ...	30	43	Miscellaneous	100	88



TABLE I. NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED, 1st January, 1920, to 31st December, 1920.
* ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Age.	Entrants.			Intermediate Group.	Leavers.				Grand Total.
	5.	6.	Total.		12.	13.	Other Ages.	Total.	
Boys	206	91	297	223	214	30	7	251	771
Girls	192	64	256	228	204	25	15	244	728
Totals	398	155	553	451	418	55	22	495	1499

* "Routine Medical Inspection" is medical inspection carried out on the lines of the approved Schedule at the time when routine medical inspection is due and made on the school premises or other place sanctioned by the Board of Education under the Code.

TABLE I c.

SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.

	* SPECIAL CASES.	RE-EXAMINATIONS (i.e.). NO. CHILDREN RE-EXAMINED.
Boys	127	206
Girls	149	203
Totals	276	409
NO. OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN INSPECTED 1,775.		

* "Special Cases" are those children specifically referred to the Medical Officer and not due for routine medical inspection under the Code at the time when specially referred. Such children may or may not be of Code-group age and may be referred to the Medical Officer at the school or the clinic by the Committee, Medical Officers, School Nurses, Teachers, Attendance Officers, Parents or otherwise.

TABLE II.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND IN THE
COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION IN 1920.

Defect or Disease:					Routine Inspections.		Specials.	
					Number referred for Treatment.	Number required to be kept under observation but not referred for Treatment.	Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation but not referred for Treatment.
(1)					(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Malnutrition	...	...		17			
	Uncleanliness :							
	Head	...	...		71		138	
	Body	...	...		10		15	
Skin	{ Ringworms :							
	Head	...	...		6		75	
	Body	...	...				14	
	Scabies	...	...		4		95	
	Impetigo	...	...		14		234	
	{ Other Diseases (non-Tubercular)				6		17	
Eye	Blepharitis	...	...		6		5	
	Conjunctivitis	...	...		7		7	
	Keratitis	...	...				1	
	Corneal Ulcer	...	...		1		2	
	Corneal Opacities	...	...				2	
	Defective Vision	...	...		33	23	19	7
	Squint	...	...		9			
	Other Conditions	...	...		3		1	
Ear	{ Defective Hearing			...	6		3	
	Otitis Media	...	...		9		7	
	Other Ear Diseases	...	...		2		12	
Nose and Throat	Enlarged Tonsils...	...	...		72	85	11	4
	Adenoids	...	...		11	13		
	Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...		13		12	6
	Other Conditions...	...	...			30		
Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-Tubercular)					20	10	10	
Defective Speech						1	1	
Teeth—Dental Diseases								

Defect or Disease				Routine Inspections.		Specials.	
				Number referred for Treatment.	Number required to be kept under observation but not referred for Treatment.	Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation but not referred for Treatment.
(1)				(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Heart and Circulation.	Heart Disease						
	Organic	...	...	16	8	5	5
	Functional	...	...	2	2	7	
	Anæmin	...	...	14	4	13	7
Lunge	Bronchitis			2		13	
	Other non-Tubercular Diseases						
Tuber- culosis.	Pulmonary :						
	Definite	...	...	3		3	
	Suspected	...	...	2	2	2	2
	Non-Pulmony :						
	Glands	...	...	9			2
	Spine	...	...				
	Hip	...	...	1			
	Other Bones and Joints	...	...	2			
Nervous System.	Skin	...	...		1		
	Other Forms	...	...				
	Epilepsy			3		2	
	Chorea			1			
Defor- mities.	Other Conditions...			1			
	Rickets						
	Spinal Curvature	...	...	1			
	Other Forms	...	...	3			2
Other Defects and Diseases				3		113	19

Number of *Individual Children* having defects which required Treatment or to be kept under observation.

983

TABLE III.—NUMERICAL RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA.

			Boys	Girls	Total
BLIND (including partially Blind).			1		
DEAF OR DUMB (including partially Deaf).			1		
MENTALLY DEFICIENT	Feeble Minded	Attending Public Elementary Schools	4		
		Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ...		2	
		Notified to the Local (Control) Authority during the year ...	3	1	
		Not at School			
	Imbeciles	At School	2		
		Not at School			
Idiots					
EPILEPTICS.			1	1	
			2		
PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Attending Public Elementary Schools			
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children...			
		Not at School	5	3	
	Other forms of Tuberculosis	Attending Public Elementary Schools	6	8	
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children...		1	
		Not at School	1		
	Cripples other than Tubercular	Attending Public Elementary Schools	2	1	
		Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children...			
		No at School		1	
* DULL or BACKWARD.			12	7	
			9	11	

* Judged according to age and standard.

TABLE IV. (a).

TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.

Diseases or Defects.	Number of Children.			
	Referred for Treatment.	Treated.		Total.
		Under Local Authority's Clinic Scheme.	Otherwise.	
Ringworm, Head	81	69	6	75
Ringworm, Body	14	12	2	14
Scabies	99	99	—	99
Impetigo	248	248	—	248
Minor Injuries	64	59	5	64
Other Skin Diseases	23	23	—	23
Ear Diseases	39	39	—	39
Eye Diseases (External & Other)	35	19	12	31
Miscellaneous	75	57	5	62

FORM IV (b).

NUMBER OF CHILDREN.

	Referred for Refraction.	Submitted to Refraction.								
		Under Local Authority's Clinic Scheme.	Private Practitioner or Hospital.	Otherwise.	Total.					
61		43	9	—	52	For whom Glasses were prescribed.	49	For whom Glasses were provided.	—	3
						Recommended for treatment other than by Spectacles.	—	Received other forms of Treatment.	—	
						For whom no Treatment was considered necessary.				

TABLE IV. (c).

TREATMENT OF NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

Referred for Treatment.	Number of Children.			
	Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of Treatment.
	Under Local Education Authority's Clinic Scheme.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital.	Total.	
119	53	15	68	12

FORM IV. (d).—TREATMENT OF DENTAL DEFECTS.

1.—Number of Children dealt with.

	Age of Groups.										"Specials"	Total
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
(a) Inspected by dentist ...	398	496	418	451								1763
(b) Referred for treatment ...	75	243	213	335							316	1182
(c) Actually treated	29	97	107	174							316	723
(d) Re-treated (result of periodical examination) ...								193				

2.—Particulars of Time given and of Operations undertaken.

No. of Half Days devoted to Inspection.	No. of Half Days devoted to Treatment.	Total No. of Attendances made by the Children at the Clinic.	No. of Permanent Teeth.		No. of Temporary Teeth.		Total No. of Fillings	No. of Administrations of General Anæsthetics included in (4) and (6)	No. of other Operations.	
			Ex-tracted.	Filled.	Ex-tracted.	Filled.			Per-manent Teeth.	Tem-porary Teeth.
(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)	(6.)	(7.)	(8.)	(9.)	(10.)	(11.)
29	63	1287	130	231	923	28	259	112	4	—

TABLE V. SUMMARY OF DEFECTS TREATED AS SHOWN IN TABLES A, B, C, D & F.

Disease or Defect.	Number of Children.			
	Referred for Treatment.	Treated.		
		Under Local Authority's Clinic Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
Minor Ailments	678	625	30	655
Visual Defects	61	43	9	52
Defects of Nose and Throat	119	53	27	80
Dental Defects	1182	723	21	744
Other Defects	131	36	72	108
Total	2171	1480	159	1639

TABLE VI.
SUMMARY RELATION TO CHILDREN MEDICALLY
INSPECTED AT THE ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS
DURING THE YEAR.

(1) Total Number of Children Medically Inspected at the Routine Medical Inspection.	1499
(2) Number of Children in (1) suffering with :—	
Malnutrition	17
Skin Disease	28
Defective Vision (including Squint)	65
Eye Disease	19
Defective Hearing	6
Ear Disease	11
Nose and Throat Disease.	254
Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-tubercular)	30
Defective Speech	1
Dental Disease	515
Heart Disease	
Organic	24
Functional	4
Anaemia	18
Lung Diseases	2
Tuberculosis	
Pulmonary { Definite	3
Suspected	4
Non-Pulmonary	13
Diseases of Nervous System	5
Deformities	4
Other Defects and Diseases	3
(3) The Number of Children in (1) suffering from defects, who require to be kept under observation (but not referred for treatment), excluding clothing and footwear.	179
(4) Number of Children in (1) who were referred for treatment, excluding defective clothing and footwear.	804
(5) The Number of Children in (4) who received treatment for one or more defects. Excluding uncleanness, etc.	631

